Merger of small steel PSUs with SAIL

639. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for the merger of Small Steel Public Sector Enterprises with Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether related issues pertaining to the proposal have been adequately considered and all affected interests have been consulted in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) There is no formal proposal at present for merger of any Small Steel Public Sector Enterprise with Steel Authority of India Limited.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Rising Steel Price

640. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sharp rise in the price of steel.

(b) if so, the details in this regard, with comparative figures for the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this price rise is the cause for rising manufacturing cost of motor vehicles;

(d) if so, the details in this regard, with particular reference to the impact of steel price rise on small scale industries dependent on steel; and

(e) the measures initiated to provide relief to the SSIs?